

## *Chaetagnlaea cerata* (A Noctuid Moth)

### Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

**Class:** *Insecta* (Insects)

**Order:** *Lepidoptera* (Butterflies, Skippers, And Moths)

**Family:** *Noctuidae* (Noctuid Moths)

#### General comments:

Typically found in pitch pine barrens and open heath lands, which are not common in ME; no recent EOs despite moderate survey effort by Schweitzer and others; G3G4; evidence of historic decline globally; potentially could be found outside PP habitats – host plants (blueberry, scrub oak, Prunus) not limiting

#### Species Conservation Range Maps for A Noctuid Moth:

Town Map: [Chaetagnlaea cerata\\_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Chaetagnlaea cerata\\_HUC12.pdf](#)

#### SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

**Risk of Extirpation:** NA

**State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:**

*Chaetagnlaea cerata* is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.

**Recent Significant Declines:** NA

**Regional Endemic:** NA

**High Regional Conservation Priority:** NA

**High Climate Change Vulnerability:** NA

**Understudied rare taxa:** NA

**Historical:**

Species currently listed as state (SH) or global (GH) historical (by MDIFW or NatureServe) that have some reasonable probability of rediscovery with further survey effort.

State Rank: SH, Global Rank: G3G4, Rounded Global Rank: G3, MDIFW Historical: Yes

**Culturally Significant:** NA

#### Habitats Assigned to A Noctuid Moth:

##### Formation Name      Northeastern Upland Forest

**Macrogroup Name**      Central Oak-Pine

**Habitat System Name:** Central Appalachian Dry Oak-Pine Forest    **Notes:** potential; where host plants (scrub oak, blueberry, Prunus spp., others) present

**Habitat System Name:** North Atlantic Coastal Plain Hardwood Forest    **Notes:** potential; dry barrens and coastal heaths with scrub oak

**Habitat System Name:** Northeastern Interior Pine Barrens    **\*\*Primary Habitat\*\***    **Notes:** may be preferred habitat - host plants (scrub oak, blueberry, Prunus spp., others) not limiting

**Macrogroup Name**      Northern Hardwood & Conifer

**Habitat System Name:** Northeastern Coastal and Interior Pine-Oak Forest    **Notes:** potential; where host plants (scrub oak, blueberry, Prunus spp., others) present

#### Stressors Assigned to A Noctuid Moth:

Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

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#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Natural Systems Modifications

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Fire and Fire Suppression

**Severity:** Severe

**Actionability:** Moderately actionable

**Notes:** Pine barren habitat is fire dependent - fire suppression can alter successional stage and habitat availability over time; fire can cause direct mortality

#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Other Options

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Lack of knowledge

**Severity:** Moderate Severity

**Actionability:** Highly actionable

**Notes:** No modern EOs even though habitat present in ME - species potentially extirpated from unknown reason; lack of comprehensive survey effort, including outside PPSO habitat, to identify additional occurrences and determine species status

#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Pollution

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Agricultural and Forestry Effluents

**Severity:** Moderate Severity

**Actionability:** Highly actionable

**Notes:** Nontarget species impacts from aerial pesticides; especially control efforts for gypsy moth in southern ME

#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Residential and Commercial Development

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Housing and Urban Areas

**Severity:** Severe

**Actionability:** Moderately actionable

**Notes:** Habitat loss and fragmentation; pine barren habitat is prime land for development in southern ME

#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Agriculture and Aquaculture

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Annual and Perennial Non-timber crops

**Severity:** Moderate Severity

**Actionability:** Moderately actionable

**Notes:** Some barren habitat is being converted to intensive blueberry production

#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Energy Production and Mining

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Mining and Quarrying

**Severity:** Moderate Severity

**Actionability:** Moderately actionable

**Notes:** Habitat loss (e.g., sand and gravel extraction)

#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Residential and Commercial Development

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Commercial and Industrial Areas

**Severity:** Moderate Severity

**Actionability:** Moderately actionable

**Notes:** Habitat loss and fragmentation; pine barren habitat is prime land for development in southern ME

#### IUCN Level 1 Threat      Transportation and Service Corridors

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**      Roads and Railroads

**Severity:** Moderate Severity

**Actionability:** Moderately actionable

**Notes:** Habitat loss and fragmentation; pine barren habitat is prime land for development in southern ME

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**Family:** *Noctuidae* (Noctuid Moths)

**IUCN Level 1 Threat**

**Other Options**

**IUCN Level 2 Threat:**

**Other Threat**

**Severity:** Moderate Severity

**Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty

**Notes:** Evidence of past global declines from unknown stressor

### Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to A Noctuid Moth:

None. *Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are summarized here.*

### Conservation Actions Associated with the Dry Barrens Lepidoptera Guild:

**Conservation Action**

**Category:** Species Management

**Biological Priority:** critical

**Type:** new

Prepare occurrence maps and pesticide spray consultation guidelines for rare Lepidoptera and distribute to strategic partners including Maine Bureau of Pesticides Control.

**Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action**

Agricultural and Forestry Effluents

**Conservation Action**

**Category:** Habitat Management

**Biological Priority:** critical

**Type:** new

Conduct a statewide review of potential high quality barrens habitat that is threatened by succession and identify strategic habitat restoration actions for implementation by key conservation partners.

**Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action**

Fire and Fire Suppression

### Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

### Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

*The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.*